

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS**

Please replace the paragraph extending from page 5, lines 5-20 with the following new paragraph:

Figure 4 shows a fish 300 secured to the assembly 200. A fisherman securely holding the rope 204 in his hand 304 holds the assembly 200 vertically. A pair of upwardly extending protrusions 136' and 138' of the clip 100' securely holds the fish 300 by gripping the fish's lip or jaw 302. The weight of the fish 300 is resisted by the fisherman exerting an equal and opposite force on the rope 204. The force caused by the fisherman pulling on the rope 204 urges a biasing member 116' upward. An end 118' of the biasing member 116' travels against the inside wall of upper portion 106. The upward movement of the biasing member 116' urges the upper portions 106' and 108' to move away from each other which causes the protrusions 136' and 138'' to move towards each other. Travel of the end 118' of the biasing member 116 is restricted by a ledge 120, which in turn increases the maximum weight capacity of the clip. The rigid members 102' and 104' are capable of rotating about the spacer 114'. Thus, the heavier the fish, the greater the gripping force applied to the fish lip or jaw by the protrusions 136' and 138'. The upward angled protrusions 136' and 138' form a reverse taper that can positively clamp the fish's lip. The fish can be positioned relative to the clip 100' such that the gripping portions 126' and 128' grab the fish just below the fat portion of the fish's lip. The ledge 120 prevents the biasing member 116' from coming loose when an upward force is applied to the rope 204. A protrusion 130' can be used as a lip stop to prevent the fish from being inserted too

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C1
concluded

far into the clip 100'.

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**Please replace the paragraph extending from page 6, line 12 to page 6, line 20
with the following new paragraph:**

C2

Figure 5 shows a second embodiment of a clip 100". The clip 100" shows an alternative biasing member 116" and lip stop 130". The biasing member 116" is coupled to the ends of upper portions 106" and 108". Coupled to the biasing member 116" is a pair of protrusions 150A" and 150B". The protrusions 150A" and 150B" form an opening [] 150". The opening 150" provides a convenient coupling location for a rope. When a force is exerted upward on the coupled rope, the force urges the upper portion 106" and 108" away from each other which urges protrusions 136" and 138" closer together [. This increases] thereby increasing the gripping force of the protrusion 136" and 138". The alternative lip stop 130" is shown as a "T".

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DRAWING AMENDMENTS

Please amend the drawings by making the modifications as indicated in red on the attached sheet labeled Figure 4

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